

Lanesboro Public Utilities Commission  
Council Chambers  
Monday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
1 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Gerald Evenson, Chair  
Theresa Coleman, (Dennis Schuck-Absent)

Staff Present: Jim Peterson, Jerod Wagner, David Todd

Visitors: Autumn Johnson, Phil Dybing, Ted Kjos and Rick Lamon

Commissioner Evenson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Coleman moved to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evenson. Motion carried.

Commissioner Coleman moved to approve the minutes of the April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evenson. Motion carried.

#### **Persons with interest before the Commission**

A. Mr. Phil Dybing

Mr. Dybing was on hand to once again seek a decision from the PUC regarding the Golf Course's water rates and REU structure. Mr. Dybing stated that he ran the financials and if the golf course were to drill a well the break-even point was \$550.00 per month for REUs (\$550.00 per month X 15 years). His suggestion for the PUC to consider would be to cap the REUs for the golf course at \$550.00 per month moving forward. He indicated that he did not expect a response at this meeting but he would be back for the June meeting and was hopeful the PUC could make a decision regarding this request.

B. Rick Lamon

Mr. Lamon wished to address the PUC regarding water and sewer for the Root River Ag building. Mr. Lamon stated that he did not have success with being allowed to hook onto the existing privately owned water line behind the building. He indicated that he may put in a larger line and run it to the City water main and manhole on Parkway Avenue. Mr. Lamon requested that he be able to contract with the City to do the backfill and street disruption. The PUC advised that he could not contract with the City because the City is not a contracting agency. Additionally, the City would be put in an awkward position by interfering with other contractors and thus could jeopardize the relationship with those contractors by doing the job they would normally bid for. This was bad business practice and the City would not enter into an agreement such as this. Mr. Lamon asked if the PUC would pay for the permit from MnDOT if he were to disrupt the street and put in a line at the City main on Parkway Avenue. The PUC stated

that they would not entertain this option either as there was equity issues; if we did it for Mr. Lamon then we would have to provide that benefit to all.

C. Ted Kjos

Mr. Kjos was on hand to address the PUC from Tri-County Electric Cooperative regarding the City's rebate program. Mr. Kjos provided examples from what other Cities were offering and also some statutory language that affects the amounts appropriated for CIP. Mr. Kjos indicated that the City is proportionally equivalent to what other cities are providing for rebates.

D. Autumn Johnson

Ms. Johnson was on hand to seek approval from the PUC regarding the Round Up program for the utility bills. The program would allow utility customers to round up the change on their utility bills, the proceeds of which will be used to assist in funding a new ambulance shed. The PUC indicated that they would allow a Round up program with an opt-out clause. Meaning the utility customers would have the ability to opt-out of the program rather than to participate. Commissioner Coleman made a motion to move forward with the round-up program with an opt-out clause and to designate the funds towards a new ambulance shed. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evenson. Motion carried all in favor. Commissioner Coleman advised Ms. Johnson and the City Administrator to work out the details with the Deputy Clerk, Michele Peterson to be implemented into the PUC billing procedures.

**Regular Business**

A. Payables

Commissioner Coleman moved to pay expenses of the Lanesboro Public Utilities. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evenson. Motion Carried.

B. Minnesota Rural Water Association Membership Renewal

Motion was made by Commissioner Coleman to renew the PUC membership. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evenson. Motion carried all in favor.

C. WTP Change Order #1

Administrator Todd provided a change order to the WTP project. The change included adding 20' of 6" column pipe, power cable, transducer cable, and PVC carrier to well #4, change flow rate for well #4 pump from 500 gpm to 450 gpm as well as the flow rates from high service pumps from 500 to 450 gpm. Motion to accept the change order was made by Commissioner Coleman. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evenson. Motion carried all in favor.

D. SMIF Annual Donation (\$250.00)

Motion was made by Commissioner Coleman to approve the donation of \$250.00 per year. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evenson. Motion carried all in favor.

E. Chamber membership-Small Business Development Workshop

The Commission decided to table this item until next meeting.

F. Summer Internship-Art of Recycling Workshop

The Commission decided to table this item until next meeting.

G. Additional Lighting for Ball Field and Basketball Court

Motion was made by Commissioner Coleman to utilize CIP (Conservation Improvement Program) funds for this purpose. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evenson. Motion carried all in favor.

H. Miscellaneous

No Items

**Next Regular Meeting: June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Adjourn Regular Meeting**

Commissioner Coleman moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Evenson. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.